



Indiana

Jefferson Proving Ground

Facility and Location

Jefferson Proving Ground (JPG) is situated on over 55,000 acres in Jefferson, Ripley, and Jennings Counties. Military use of the site began in late 1940. The mission of JPG was to test and evaluate all types of munitions. In 1988, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) recommended the installation be closed and the mission transferred to Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona. The last round was fired on September 30, 1994, ending the testing mission. JPG closed on September 30, 1995.

JPG was responsible for performing numerous tests on ordnance, such as ballistics acceptance tests, restructures development tests, product improvement tests, acceptance tests, surveillance tests, proof acceptance tests, and various environment effects tests. Tests were conducted on all components of ammunition that were required to make up a complete round. These included the cartridge case, primer, propelling charge, projectile or bullet, bursting charge or explosive, and fuse. Each of these items were tested separately and then assembled in order to test the complete round.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — Prior to 2007, 14 samples from the operational range impact and boundary areas reported no detection.

Sediment — Prior to 2007, 22 samples from the operation range area reported no detection.

Soil — Prior to 2007, 36 of 160 samples from the operation range impact and boundary areas detected perchlorate from 27 to 110 ppb.

Surface Water — Prior to 2007, 1 of 22 samples from the operation range area detected perchlorate at 0.87 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

There are no state or regional advisory levels for perchlorates in soil. EPA Regions III, VI, and IX use a soil screening level of 55,000 ppb in residential soil and 720,000 ppb in industrial soil. Due to comparatively low levels of perchlorate in soils at JPG, no further action is planned.